

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-49 (Currently Cancelled).

50. (Original) A method of modulating MAT II β subunit polypeptide activity in a vertebrate subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the vertebrate subject an effective amount of a substance capable of modulating the MAT II β subunit polypeptide activity in the vertebrate subject, whereby modulation of the MAT II β subunit polypeptide activity is accomplished.
51. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the step of administering further comprises administering an effective amount of a substance that modulates expression of a MAT II β subunit-encoding polynucleic acid in the vertebrate.
52. (Original) The method of claim 51, wherein the substance that modulates expression of a MAT II β subunit-encoding polynucleic acid comprises an antisense oligonucleotide.
53. (Original) The method of claim 50, where the substance that modulates the MAT II β subunit activity comprises an anti-MAT II β subunit antibody.
54. (Original) The method of claim 53, where the anti-MAT II β subunit antibody 15 comprises a monoclonal antibody.
55. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the MAT II β subunit activity comprises modulating MAT II biological activity, and wherein the step of administering comprises administering to the vertebrate an effective MAT II β subunit-modulating amount of a substance capable of modulating MAT II β subunit modulation of MAT II biological activity.
56. (Original) The method of claim 50, wherein the vertebrate is a mammal.
57. (Original) The method of claim 56, wherein the mammal is a human.
58. (Original) A method of treating a patient suffering from a disorder associated with MAT II biological activity in the patient, the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) administering to the patient an effective amount of a substance capable of modulating MAT II β subunit activity in the patient, whereby modulation of the MAT II β subunit polypeptide activity is accomplished; and
 - (b) modulating MAT II biological activity in the patient through the modulation of the MAT II β subunit activity, whereby treatment of the disorder is accomplished.
59. (Original) The method of claim 58, wherein the step of administering further comprises administering an effective amount of a substance that modulates expression of a MAT II β subunit-encoding polynucleic acid in the patient.
60. (Original) The method of claim 59, wherein the substance that modulates expression of a MAT II β subunit-encoding polynucleic acid comprises an antisense oligonucleotide.
61. (Original) The method of claim 58, wherein the substance capable of modulating MAT II β subunit activity in the vertebrate comprises an anti-MAT II β subunit antibody.
62. (Original) The method of claim 61, wherein the anti-MAT II β subunit antibody comprises a monoclonal antibody.
63. (Original) A method of treating a patient suffering from a disorder associated with MAT II biological activity in the patient, the method comprising the step of administering to the patient a therapeutic composition which comprises a biologically active MAT II β subunit polypeptide, whereby treatment of disorder associated with MAT II biological activity in the patient is accomplished.
64. (Original) The method of claim 63, wherein the modulated MAT II biological activity comprises MAT II biological activity endogenous to the vertebrate subject.
65. (Original) The method of claim 63, wherein the modulated MAT II biological activity comprises MAT II biological activity in bacterial, fungal or other parasitic

cells residing in the vertebrate subject, to thereby treat infection of the patient by said organisms.

66. (Original) The method of claim 63, wherein the therapeutic composition comprises a MAT II β subunit polypeptide as essentially set forth in any of Figures 1-5 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

67-74. (Currently Cancelled).

75. (Original) A method of modulating MAT II β subunit biological activity in a vertebrate subject, the method comprising administering to the vertebrate subject an MAT II β subunit activity-modulating amount of a composition, whereby MAT II β subunit within the vertebrate subject is contacted by the composition; and modulating MAT II β subunit biological activity through the contacting of the MAT II β subunit with the composition.

76. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein the composition comprises a monoclonal antibody which preferentially binds MAT II β subunit.

77. (Original) The method of claim 76, wherein the MAT II β subunit biological activity-modulating amount of the monoclonal antibody ranges from about 0.1 to about 300 milligrams per kilogram body weight of the vertebrate subject.

78. (Original) The method of claim 77, wherein the MAT II β subunit biological activity-modulating amount of the monoclonal antibody ranges from about 0.2 to about 200 milligrams per kilogram body weight of the vertebrate subject.

79. (Original) The method of claim 78, wherein the MAT II β subunit biological activity-modulating amount of the monoclonal antibody ranges from about 0.5 to about 20 milligrams per kilogram body weight of the vertebrate subject.

80. (Original) The method of claim 76, wherein the antibody is humanized.

81. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein the administering is selected for the group consisting of intravenous administration, intrasynovial administration, transdermal administration, intramuscular administration, subcutaneous administration and oral administration.

82. (Original) The method of claim 75, wherein the vertebrate subject is a mammal.

83. (Original) The method of claim 82, wherein the mammal is a human.
84. (Original) A method of treating modulate MAT II β subunit biological activity in a vertebrate subject, the method comprising the step of administering to the vertebrate subject an effective amount of a substance capable of modulating expression of a MAT II β subunit-encoding nucleic acid molecule in the vertebrate to thereby modulate MAT II β subunit biological activity in the vertebrate subject.
85. (Original) The method of claim 84, wherein the substance that modulates expression of the MAT II β subunit-encoding nucleic acid molecule comprises an antisense oligonulceotide.
86. (Original) The method of claim 84, wherein the substance that modulates expression of the MAT II β subunit-encoding nucleic acid molecule comprises a ligand for a modulatable transcriptional regulatory sequence of a MA T II β subunit-encoding nucleic acid molecule or for a promoter of the MAT II β subunit-encoding nucleic acid molecule.
87. (Original) The method of claim 84; wherein the administering is selected for the group consisting of intravenous administration, intrasynovial administration, transdermal administration, intramuscular administration, subcutaneous administration and oral administration.
- [[89]]88. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 84, wherein the vertebrate subject is a mammal.
- 90-94 (Currently Cancelled).